

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
USMISSION NATO
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT PO
SUBJECT: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: EANES CALLS FOR
RECONCILIATION

REFS: (A) LISBON 4415 (DTG 031640Z JUN 77), (B) LISBON 4454
(DTG 061626Z JUN 77)

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT EANES MADE HARD WORK, NATIONAL
RECONCILIATION, AND PRIDE IN PORTUGUESE IDENTITY THE THEMES
OF THE JUNE 10 CAMOES DAY CELEBRATIONS. HE AVOIDED THE
CONTROVERSIAL POLITICAL REMARKS WHICH SET OFF A NATIONAL
DEBATE FOLLOWING HIS APRIL 25 ADDRESS. END SUMMARY.
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1. EANES CALLS FOR PRIDE IN PORTUGAL: PRESIDENT
EANES PRESIDED OVER THE JUNE 10 CAMOES DAY CELEBRATIONS IN
NORTHERN PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF GUARDA. DURING HIS PRINCIPAL ADDRESS
EANES CALLED FOR:
-- RECOVERY OF NATIONAL IDENTITY: PORTUGUESE NATIONAL
IDENTITY MUST BE RESTORED, BUILDING UPON THE

UNIVERSAL ASPIRATIONS OF A PEOPLE WITH TIES AROUND THE WORLD. THE RETURN TO EUROPE COMPLETED AN IMPORTANT CYCLE IN PORTUGAL'S HISTORY. PEOPLE MUST NOW COME TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION.
-- WORK AND INVEST FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY: IN ORDER TO FULFILL ITS ASPIRATIONS, PORTUGAL MUST PRODUCE MORE AND DISPLAY GREATER WORK DISCIPLINE. NEW PLANS AND INVESTMENTS MUST BE MADE WITHOUT WAITING FOR ARTIFICIAL PROTECTION. NATIONS ARE NOT BUILT ON GREAT POLITICAL SPEECHES. PARTISAN AND IDEOLOGICAL DISPUTES MUST NOT CAMOUFLAGE INEPTITUDE; UNJUST AND REGRESSIVE PROTECTIONISM MUST END.

2. PSD/AZOREAN CONGRESS REJECTS SEPARATISM: THE CONGRESS OF THE AZOREAN PSD CONCLUDED JUNE 11 BY "REJECTING ... UNREALISTIC SEPARATISTS." PSD VICE PRESIDENT BARBOSA DE MELO, AND POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS SERVULO CORREIRA AND MARQUES MENDES REPRESENTED THE LISBON ORGANIZATION AT THE REGIONAL CONGRESS. IN RESPONSE TO A PRESS INQUIRY BARBOSA DE MELO MINIMIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PSD/CDS AGREEMENT (REF A). MELO SAID: "THERE IS NO CONVERGENCE BETWEEN THE PSD AND CDS. CONVERGENCE WAS AN EXPLOITATION OF THE PS AND PCP PRESS ... THE PSD AND CDS PROGRAMS ARE PROFOUNDLY DIFFERENT AND THE TWO PARTIES ARE TOTALLY AUTONOMOUS. THERE IS ONLY AN AGREEMENT AT THE PARLIAMENTARY LEVEL FOR PRIOR CONSULTATIONS BEFORE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DECISIONS.

3. STUDENTS SUPPORT COIMBRA REOPENING: 85 PERCENT OF STUDENTS RESPONDING TO THE EDUCATION MINISTRY'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFERENDUM - A MAJORITY OF THE TOTAL STUDENT BODY - VOTED TO REOPEN THE UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA ON TERMS LAID DOWN BY MINISTER SOTTOMAYOR CARDIA (REF B). THE UNIVERSITY WILL REOPEN JUNE 16 IN A CLEAR VICTORY FOR CARDIA'S TOUGH STAND.

4. MARCELO CURTO ON ILO CONFERENCE: FORMER LABOR MINISTER MARCELO CURTO, WHO HEADS THE PORTUGUESE DELEGATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS TO THE PRESS JUNE 11 UPON HIS RETURN TO LISBON:
-- CGTP CRITICIZED: THE PORTUGUESE LABOR DELEGATION, REPRESENTED BY CGTP DELEGATES, TOOK POSITIONS IN LINE WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE EASTERN BLOC, WHICH WERE ON MANY OCCASIONS CONTRARY TO PORTUGUESE INTERESTS.
-- DEFENSE OF US POSITION: "THE US DOES NOT WANT THE QUESTION OF UNION AND LABOR CONDITIONS IN ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES BROUGHT UP IN THE CONFERENCE UNTIL THE FACTS ARE FULLY INVESTIGATED."

5. COMMENT: AMCONSUL OPORTO, PRESENT AT THE CAMOES DAY CEREMONY

REPORTS THAT THE CROWDS RESERVED MOST OF THEIR CHEERS
AND ATTENTION FOR EANES. THE PRESIDENT AVOIDED THE CONTRO-
VERSIAL POLITICAL REMARKS WHICH SET OFF A NATIONAL
DEBATE FOLLOWING HIS APRIL 25 ADDRESS. TO UNDERLINE
THE POINT, THE PRESIDENT LATER COMPLAINED THAT
PORTUGUESE TELEVISION HAD PUT AN OVERLY LEFTIST SLANT
ON ITS CAMOES DAY COVERAGE. INSTEAD, EANES FOCUSED ON
THE NEED FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION.
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